

In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A combination barbecue, smoker and fire pit assembly, said

assembly having removable and changeable components to selectively put said assembly in a barbecue mode, a smoker mode and a fire pit mode, said assembly comprising:

a base having an open top end, a closed bottom end, and a body portion;

a removable fire pit central housing, said fire pit central housing having an open top end, an open bottom end and a sidewall extending from said top end to said bottom end, said sidewall defining a heating compartment, wherein said top end of said base supports said fire pit central housing, said fire pit central housing being installed with said base when in the fire pit mode, and being removable from said base when said assembly is in the barbecue mode or the smoker mode;

a substantially impervious removable smoker central housing, said smoker central housing having an open top end, an open bottom end and a sidewall extending from said top end to said bottom end, said sidewall defining a smoking compartment, wherein said top end of said base supports said smoker central housing, said smoker central housing being installed with said base when in the smoker mode, and being removable from said base when said assembly is in the barbecue mode or the fire pit mode;

a lid removably mounted to the top end of a selected one of said base, said fire pit central housing and said smoker central housing,

said ~~device~~ assembly being alternatable between a barbecue grill mode, a fire pit/heating mode and a smoker mode.

2. (currently amended) The assembly according to claim 1 wherein said base further includes a movable heat source support for supporting a heat source and at least one removable food support grid for supporting food to be cooked or smoked secured in said base above said movable heat source support, said movable heat source support being movable between a first, lower position when said assembly is in the barbecue mode or the smoker mode and a second, upper position when said assembly is in the fire pit mode, and said removable food support grid being at said upper position when said assembly is in the barbecue mode and being removable from said ~~device~~ assembly when said assembly is in the fire pit mode.
3. (original) The assembly according to claim 1 wherein said smoker central housing further includes said food support grid secured within said smoker central housing at an upper position while said assembly is in the smoker mode.
4. (original) The assembly according to claim 1 wherein said fire pit central housing sidewall is a cylindrical foraminous wall.
5. (original) The assembly according to claim 1 wherein said smoker central housing sidewall is a cylindrical solid wall.
6. (original) The assembly according to claim 1 wherein said heat source is selected from the group consisting of a burner for combustible gas, an electrical heating element and combustible material.

7. (original) The assembly according to claim 1 wherein said base further includes at least one additional support for supporting smoke generating materials while said assembly is in said smoker assembly mode, said at least one additional support being secured in said base between said heat source support at said lower position and said cooking grid at said upper position in said smoker central housing.
8. (original) The assembly according to claim 1 wherein said base further includes an accessible door for providing access into said base.
9. (original) The assembly according to claim 1 wherein said fire pit central housing further includes an accessible foraminous door for providing access into said fire pit housing.
10. (new) A combination barbecue, smoker and fire pit assembly, said assembly being compact and transportable and having removable and changeable components to selectively put said assembly in a selected one of a barbecue mode, a smoker mode and a fire pit mode, said assembly comprising:
- an accessible base comprising an annular sidewall for defining an internal cavity, said sidewall having an internal side, an external side, an outer circumference, a diameter, a first set of oppositely disposed upper supports extending inwardly from and perpendicular to said internal side of said sidewall at an upper position and a second set of oppositely disposed lower supports extending inwardly from and perpendicular to said internal side of said sidewall at a lower position, an annular lipped edge for defining an open top end, said annular lipped edge having an outer circumference, wherein the outer circumference of

said annular lipped edge is greater than the outer circumference of said annular body portion, and wherein said sidewall extends downwardly from said annular lipped edge as a vertical sidewall, a closed, flat bottom end having a progressively curved sidewall extending upwardly from said floor to merge with said vertical sidewall, an accessible door for providing access into said base and, three support legs extending downwardly from said annular lipped edge at a 90° angle relative to said annular lipped edge and adjacent to said vertical sidewall, a heat source pan in said internal cavity for supporting a heat source, said heat source pan having a surface area and a diameter, being movable between said lower position when said assembly is in the barbecue mode or the smoker mode and said upper position when said assembly is in the fire pit mode, a food support grid for supporting food to be cooked or smoked in said base above said heat source support, said food support grid being at said upper position when said assembly is in the barbecue mode and being removable from said base when said assembly is in the fire pit mode or the barbecue mode and an additional removable pan, said additional removable pan having a surface area and a diameter, for supporting smoke generating materials while said assembly is in the smoker assembly mode, said at least one additional support being securable in said base above said heat source support, and wherein the surface areas and diameters of said heat source pan and said additional pan for supporting smoke generating materials are the same, the diameters of said heat source pan and said additional pan being the distance between said upper and lower supports;

an accessible and removable fire pit central housing, said fire pit central housing having an annular lipped upper edge for defining an open top end, an annular lipped bottom edge for defining an open bottom end, said annular lipped bottom edge being engageable with said annular lipped edge of said base, said base supporting said fire pit central housing, a cylindrical foraminous sidewall extending from said top end to said bottom end, said foraminous sidewall defining a heating compartment, and an accessible foraminous door for providing access into said fire pit central housing, said fire pit central housing being engaged with said base when said assembly is in the fire pit mode, and being disengaged from said base when said assembly is not in the fire pit mode;

a removable substantially impervious smoker central housing, said smoker central housing having an annular lipped upper edge for defining an open top end, an annular lipped bottom edge for defining an open bottom end, and a cylindrical solid vertical sidewall extending from said top end to said bottom end, said sidewall defining a smoking compartment and having an inner side, an outer side and a pair of oppositely disposed supports extending inwardly from and perpendicular to said inner side of said sidewall at an upper position, wherein said top end of said base is engageable with and supports said smoker central housing, said smoker central housing being engaged with said base when said assembly is in the smoker mode, and being disengaged from said base when said assembly is not in the smoker mode, wherein said food support grid is secured in said smoker central housing at said upper position while said assembly is in the smoker mode;

and

a lid removably mounted to the top end of a selected one of said base, said fire pit central housing and said smoker central housing, said lid comprising an annular lipped lower edge for defining an open bottom end, a rounded, closed top end and an annular wall extending upwardly from said lid bottom end to said lid top end, said lid lower edge being engageable with the lipped upper edge of a selected one of said base, said smoker central housing and said fire pit central housing,

said assembly being easily alternatable between a selected one of a barbecue grill mode, a fire pit mode and a smoker mode.

11. (new) A portable combination barbecue, smoker and fire pit assembly, said assembly being compact and transportable and having removable and changeable components to selectively put said assembly in a selected one of a barbecue mode, a smoker mode and a fire pit mode, said assembly comprising:

an accessible base comprising an annular sidewall for defining an internal cavity, said sidewall having an internal side, an external side, an outer circumference, a diameter, a first set of oppositely disposed upper supports extending inwardly from and perpendicular to said internal side of said sidewall at an upper position and a second set of oppositely disposed lower supports extending inwardly from and perpendicular to said internal side of said sidewall at a lower position, an annular lipped edge for defining an open top end, said annular lipped edge having an outer circumference, wherein the outer circumference of

said annular lipped edge is greater than the outer circumference of said annular body portion, and wherein said sidewall extends downwardly from said annular lipped edge as a vertical sidewall, a closed, flat bottom end having a progressively curved sidewall extending upwardly from said floor to merge with said vertical sidewall, an accessible door for providing access into said base and, three support legs extending downwardly from said annular lipped edge at a 90° angle relative to said annular lipped edge and adjacent to said vertical sidewall, a heat source pan in said internal cavity for supporting a heat source, said heat source pan having a surface area and a diameter, being movable between said lower position when said assembly is in the barbecue mode or the smoker mode and said upper position when said assembly is in the fire pit mode, a food support grid for supporting food to be cooked or smoked in said base above said heat source support, said food support grid being at said upper position when said assembly is in the barbecue mode and being removable from said base when said assembly is in the fire pit mode or the barbecue mode and an additional removable pan, said additional removable pan having a surface area and a diameter, for supporting smoke generating materials while said assembly is in the smoker assembly mode, said at least one additional support being securable in said base above said heat source support, and wherein the surface areas and diameters of said heat source pan and said additional pan for supporting smoke generating materials are the same, the diameters of said heat source pan and said additional pan being the distance between said upper and lower supports;

an accessible and removable fire pit central housing, said fire pit central housing having an annular lipped upper edge for defining an open top end, an annular lipped bottom edge for defining an open bottom end, said annular lipped bottom edge being engageable with said annular lipped edge of said base, said base supporting said fire pit central housing, a cylindrical foraminous sidewall extending from said top end to said bottom end, said foraminous sidewall defining a heating compartment, and an accessible foraminous door for providing access into said fire pit central housing, said fire pit central housing being engaged with said base when said assembly is in the fire pit mode, and being disengaged from said base when said assembly is not in the fire pit mode;

a removable substantially impervious smoker central housing, said smoker central housing having an annular lipped upper edge for defining an open top end, an annular lipped bottom edge for defining an open bottom end, and a cylindrical solid vertical sidewall extending from said top end to said bottom end, said sidewall defining a smoking compartment and having an inner side, an outer side and a pair of oppositely disposed supports extending inwardly from and perpendicular to said inner side of said sidewall at an upper position, wherein said top end of said base is engageable with and supports said smoker central housing, said smoker central housing being engaged with said base when said assembly is in the smoker mode, and being disengaged from said base when said assembly is not in the smoker mode, wherein said food support grid is secured in said smoker central housing at said upper position while said assembly is in the smoker mode;

and

a lid removably mounted to the top end of a selected one of said base, said fire pit central housing and said smoker central housing, said lid comprising an annular lipped lower edge for defining an open bottom end, a rounded, closed top end and an annular wall extending upwardly from said lid bottom end to said lid top end, said lid lower edge being engageable with the lipped upper edge of a selected one of said base, said smoker central housing and said fire pit central housing,

said assembly being easily alternatable between a selected one of a barbecue grill mode, a fire pit mode and a smoker mode, wherein said fire pit central housing further comprises a hollow central cavity for storing said base, said smoker central housing, said pan for supporting smoke generating materials, said pan for supporting a heat source, said food support grid and said lid in a nesting fashion.

12. (new) A combination barbecue, smoker and fire pit assembly, said assembly having removable and changeable components to selectively put said assembly in a barbecue mode, a smoker mode and a fire pit mode, said assembly comprising:

a base having an open top end, a closed bottom end, an annular wall extending from said top end to said bottom end for defining a body portion, a movable heat source support for supporting a heat source and at least one removable food support grid for supporting food to be cooked or smoked secured in said base above said movable heat source support, said movable heat source

support being movable between a first, lower position in said base when said assembly is in the barbecue mode or the smoker mode and a second, upper position in said base when said assembly is in the fire pit mode, and said food support grid being at said upper position in said base when said assembly is in the barbecue mode and being removable from said assembly when said assembly is in the fire pit mode;

a removable fire pit central housing, said fire pit central housing having an open top end, an open bottom end and a sidewall extending from said top end to said bottom end, said sidewall defining a heating compartment, wherein said top end of said base supports said fire pit central housing, said fire pit central housing being installed with said base when in the fire pit mode, and being removable from said base when said assembly is in the barbecue mode or the smoker mode;

a smoker central housing, said smoker central housing having an open top end, an open bottom end and a sidewall extending from said top end to said bottom end, said sidewall defining a smoking compartment, wherein said top end of said base supports said smoker central housing, said smoker central housing being installed with said base when in the smoker mode, and being removable from said base when said assembly is in the barbecue mode or the fire pit mode;

a lid removably mounted to the top end of a selected one of said base, said fire pit central housing and said smoker central housing; and

said assembly being alternatable between a barbecue grill mode, a fire pit/heating mode and a smoker mode.

13. (new) The assembly according to claim 12 wherein said smoker central housing further includes said food support grid secured within said smoker central housing at an upper position while said assembly is in the smoker mode.
14. (new) The assembly according to claim 12 wherein said fire pit central housing sidewall is a cylindrical foraminous wall.
15. (new) The assembly according to claim 12 wherein said smoker central housing sidewall is a cylindrical solid wall.
16. (new) The assembly according to claim 12 wherein said heat source is selected from the group consisting of a burner for combustible gas, an electrical heating element and combustible material.
17. (new) The assembly according to claim 12 wherein said base further includes at least one additional support for supporting smoke generating materials while said assembly is in said smoker assembly mode, said at least one additional support being secured in said base between said heat source support at said lower position and said cooking grid at said upper position in said smoker central housing.
18. (new) The assembly according to claim 12 wherein said base further includes an accessible door for providing access into said base.
19. (new) The assembly according to claim 12 wherein said fire pit central housing further includes an accessible foraminous door for providing access into said fire pit housing.